

Oxford Gardens Playcentre

Oxford Gardens School, Oxford Gardens, London, W10 6NF



Inspection date

3 May 2016

Previous inspection date

14 June 2011

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Good	2
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Good	2
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Good	2
Outcomes for children		Not applicable	

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- Children of all ages enjoy their time in this friendly club. They have good opportunities to make independent decisions about the activities they take part in from an interesting range of resources and planned activities.
- The play centre supervisor and staff work effectively as a team. They deliver consistent messages to children about the expectations of positive behaviour. This helps children to learn about fair boundaries and how to interact respectfully with others.
- Two-way partnerships with the primary school teachers and support staff help to ensure continuity of care and learning for all children. An effective key-person system helps children to develop secure emotional bonds.
- Children's understanding of a healthy lifestyle is supported well. They have ample opportunities to be physically active and help to plan the snacks that are on offer each evening.
- Children's views and ideas are respected and keenly sought which helps promote children's self-esteem and confidence. They are actively involved in planning activities and deciding on new resources.
- Parents highly value the service the play centre provides, commenting on how happy their children are.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Occasionally, staff do not make the most of opportunities to extend children's curiosity and understanding of changes to materials they are working with.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

To further improve the quality of the early years provision the provider should:

- extend opportunities for children's curiosity and understanding to be fully supported and challenged during activities.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities in the indoor and outdoor areas of the play centre, and talked with the staff and children at appropriate times.
- The inspector looked at the premises and the resources available to children.
- The inspector held a meeting with the play service manager and supervisor of the play centre. A range of documentation was looked at, including evidence of staff's suitability and training, some policies and procedures and children's records.
- The inspector spoke to a small number of parents during the inspection and looked at the results of parents' surveys to gain their views.
- The inspector observed and evaluated a planned activity with the play centre supervisor.

Inspector

Julia Sudbury

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Staff know the signs and symptoms of possible abuse and are confident about how to record and report concerns regarding a child's welfare. Children's safety is assured as staffing levels exceed the required ratio and staff are vigilant in undertaking regular risk assessments. They attend safeguarding and first-aid training to ensure that they provide appropriate care for children. Effective staff supervision, induction and regular team meetings support staff to develop their practice. The play centre supervisor evaluates and reviews the quality of provision, working with the staff team and the wider local authority play service. The views of parents are sought and acted on. There is a programme of regular professional development. Some of the staff work within the host school and make good use of their knowledge of the children to enhance children's ongoing well-being and interests. Partnerships with parents and carers are friendly and trusting. Staff share relevant information with them, including passing on messages from class teachers.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Children have an enjoyable time at the club. They spend time engaged in a range of stimulating activities. Children arrive in good spirits and settle quickly into their activities. They have free access to a large outdoor area where they take part in a range of activities that supports their physical development. They have opportunities to work out how to move their bodies and balance as they make use of climbing equipment. Social skills and self-confidence are supported well. Children negotiate and develop rules as they take part in games of hockey or catching balls. Staff support the children in their play, allowing them to be independent, but are ready to help and give support if needed. During group times children are encouraged to listen to each other and to share their views. Those children who wish to be more quiet take part in cooking and craft activities. Other children spend time building complicated models with bricks. Children's views are taken into account when planning activities.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children develop secure bonds with staff and are supported well to develop skills for life. They behave well and older children play harmoniously with younger ones. Staff are good role models and treat children with respect. Children of all ages show caring attitudes towards one another as they help each other with games and activities. Children are polite and can often be heard saying please and thank you. Children have good opportunities to be physically active in the directly accessible outside area and to learn to manage age-appropriate risks. Staff encourage children to follow good hygiene routines and support them to make healthy food choices. Children's independence is developing well. They know to hang up their own coats when they arrive and are proactive in getting them when they feel cold playing outside. Children help to clear away after teatime. Staff support them to respect the toys and to tidy up when they have finished playing, promoting a growing sense of responsibility. Robust information is gathered from parents when children start. Regular ongoing communication enables children's emotional needs to be well met.

Setting details

Unique reference number	159481
Local authority	Kensington & Chelsea
Inspection number	1040055
Type of provision	Out of school provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	4 - 11
Total number of places	30
Number of children on roll	144
Name of provider	Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea
Date of previous inspection	14 June 2011
Telephone number	0208 969 0691

Oxford Gardens Playcentre opened in 2001 and employs six members of staff. Of these, one holds an appropriate qualification at level 3. The setting opens from Monday to Friday during term time from 3.15pm to 6pm. The provision is open during school holidays from 8am until 6pm.

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